# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMUNICATIONS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3256
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
SATELLITE TELEPHONES
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether a London based mobile satellite telephone company is setting up 400 satellite telephone network in rural areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the areas identified for the installation of the said telephones?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.) has ordered 400 Satellite Terminals which will work onINMARSAT (international Maritime Satellite) operated by London based organization M/s INMARSAT. 280 terminals have been received and the remaining 120 are in the pipeline. These terminals are being supplied in remote and isolated areas of the country where no other terrestrial media is feasible. A few of these terminals have been reserved for Gujarat & Orissa to meet emergency conditions like earthquake, cyclone etc. These terminals have been deployed during cyclone in Orissa & Gujarat, flood in Himachal Pradesh, Mansarover and Amarnath Yatra and recent earthquake in Gujarat.